declared as Protected Areas and the rest of the area will be declared open. However, certain areas even in the 'open area' which are considered sensitive will remain in the restricted category.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Incident at Kupwara in Kashmir

304. SHRI G.G. SWELL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 21 persons lost their lives including three policemen in a serious incident at Kupwara in Kashmir recently; and

(b) whether the incident has added force to the talking point of the Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto both in the world economic forum at Davos and the Human Rights Commission in Geneva?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) As per available information, on 27.01.1994, an Army convoy passing through Kupwara town was attacked by militants. In the ensuing exchange of fire, 21 persons including three State Police Personnel, were killed and 15 others injured. The State Government has announced a Magisterial Inquiry into the incident besides the payment of ex-gratia relief to the victims. The Inquiry is in progress.

(b) Such incidents have been used by Pakistan in their propaganda campaign against India. Pakistan Foreign Office issued a Statement on the Kupwara incident on 30.01.1994, and the Prime Minister of Pakistan mentioned it in her statement in the 50th Session of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva on 01.02.1994.

Blasts in various towns of Jammu and Kashmir

305. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several blasts have rocked various towns in Jammu and Kashmir of late.

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the loss of life; and

(c) what positive steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to wipe out the incidents of blasts and to nab the culprits involved in such blasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) As per available information, a total of 21 blasts have occured in Jammu and Kashmir during this year so far. In these blasts, four civilians and four militants were killed; while 27 civilians and two security forces personnel were injured. Besides, two shops, two bridges and some water supply lines were also damaged.

(c) Sustained pressure is being maintained on the militants within the State and vigil has been further intensified and stepped up on the LOC and the border to prevent infiltration/ exfiltration of terrorists.

News-item regarding Medical Camps in J & K

306. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the Indian Express of 12th January, 1994, under the caption "The Army's bloodless coup in Doda", the medical camps organised by the Army's northern command Kishtwar were successful in bringing peace to hundreds of militancy-torn villages of the area besides benefits to the inhabitants by way of medical treatment and propagation of public health schemes;